Purchase of Yossarian Electro Diesel Engine from Germany

2707. Prof. R.B.S VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has placed any order for puchase of Yossarian Electro Diesel engine from Germany;

(b) if so, the details of number of engines and the time schedule for inducting the same in trial runs and other details;

(c) whether his Ministry is aware that the Tom Wolfe Committee report in Germany has halted its induction into the Euro Rail System;

(d) whether his Ministry has conducted any feasibility study in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Steps to prevent rail accidents

2708. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to avoid rail accidents in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to adopt high-tech instruments to avoid increasing rail accidents;

(c) if so, the total estimated cost of the project and the total area of the rail line to be covered; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to complete the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways and adoption of new measures including technologies to improve safety is a continuous process. Indian Railways have formulated a "Corporate Safety

Plan" for the period 2003 to 2013, which has been presented to the Parliament in August 2003. This document states the objectives, targets and strategies for which Indian Railways would be striving in this period. The measures being taken by Indian Railways to improve safety include adoption of modern technology for interlocking and signalling system, upgradation of standards of track and rolling stock, modernization of maintenance practices, replacement of overaged assets, upgradation of training aids like simulators, checks on observance of safety precautions and provisions of Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS), Anti Collision Device (ACD) etc.

(c) and (d) The Corporate Safety Plan also envisages a safety action plan, including broad time frames, involving total investment of Rs. 31,835 crores for safety related works in the ten year period, which covers continuous rehabilitation and modernization of assets, qualitative changes in men and machines, induction of appropriate technologies in support of human efforts etc.

Mumbai Urban Transport Project

2709. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent of the cost of the Mumbai Urban Transport Project is to be borne by the Central Government;

(b) the details of the Central components and the amount that has already been paid;

(c) the progress made therein and by when the balance amount would be paid;

(d) the entitlement of the State for Mumbai Urban Infrastructure Project, a supplement to Mumbai Urban Transport Project, under National Urban Renewal Mission from the Centre;

(e) whether the same has been approved;

(f) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(g) how much has already been paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) 50% cost of only Rail Component of Mumbai Urban Transport